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# A PROCLAMATION,

*Discharging Merchants and other Traffickers to Sell or Exchange any Prohibited Commodities, with themselves, or amongst others.*



CHARLES by the Grace of GOD, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith,  
To Macers of Our Privy Council, or Messengers  
at Arms, our Sheriffs in that part, conjunctly and severally, specially constitute, Greeting, Forasmuch  
as We, from the great care We alwayes had of the Advancement of the Trade and Manufactories of this  
Our Ancient Kingdom, have made several good Laws and Acts thereanent, and particularly, by the  
12th. Act of our Current Parliament, in the Moneth of September, 1681. Relative to our former  
Proclamation, in April preceeding; The Importing, Selling, Venting, Bartering, or Exchanging of  
diverse Commodities therein named, is Prohibited and Discharged, under the Certifications and Penali-  
ties exprest therein: And albeit We then understood that the Importing, and Venting of these Prohibited Commodities  
could hardly be restrained without a total Prohibition had been given to the wearing thereof; yet out of a tenderness to the  
Merchants, who might have had great parts of their Stocks in these Commodities upon their hands, We thought it not  
then fit to make a total and immediat Prohibition to the Wearing, but ordained them to be put under Bond, not to Import any  
of these Prohibited Goods thereafter, nor to Vent, Sell, Barter, or Exchange any thereof, upon hazard of incurring the cer-  
tifications contained therein: And notwithstanding there hath been more then sufficient time allowed to the Merchants to have  
sold off these Prohibited Goods, yet upon pretext thereof, and of the Ambiguity of the words in the Bond, that they are only  
obliged not to Vent, Sell, Barter, or Exchange any of these Goods, that at the buying or receiving thereof were known to  
have been Imported, contrary to the Laws; diverse Persons have presumed to Import, at the least to Reset Commo-  
dities unwarrantably Imported, and to Vent, Sell, Barter, and Exchange the same, so that thereby the Execution of the Law  
hath been hitherto evacuated and eluded, and honest Men, who out of Conscience and Duty have given obedience, in hazard  
to be ruined, and the Trade and Manufactory of the Kingdom overturned and destroyed; and although we had more then  
reason to have enforced the Execution of the saids good Laws, by the exemplary punishment of persons most guilty.: Neverthe-  
less We, according to Our accustomed Clemency, have thought fit to continue any Sentence upon the Proceeds in dependence  
against them, at the instance of Our Advocate, till We shall have occasion to know their future behaviour. And in the mean time,  
for Explicating and making the said Act of Parliament effectual for the good ends therein designed, We, with Advice of Our  
Privy Council hereby Prohibit and Discharge all Merchants within this Kingdom, or other Traffiquers, Men, or Women,  
to Buy, or Sell, Barter, or Exchange with themselves, or among others, any Cloaths, Stuffs, Sarges, Holland, Cambridge,  
Silk-stockings, or any Goods made of Wool, or Lint, after the Date hereof, except they know, and can be able to declare  
upon Oath they were either made in the Kingdom, or lawfully Imported, proceeding the Prohibition contained in the Act of  
Parliament, and Proclamation foresaid, under the Penalties and Certifications therein contained, to be inflicted on them, with-  
out favour or defalcation. And in respect diverse Persons have, or may pretend to have such Goods in their custody, as to  
which they cannot positively declare upon Oath that they were Imported before the Prohibition, as having come through se-  
veral hands: We do allow the Merchants Burghesses of Edinburgh, and others, havers of such Goods in their possession, before  
the Date hereof ( who did take the Bond, and give up Inventar, and none others ) liberty to Retail the same to the Liedges,  
or Export them out of the Kingdom at any time betwixt and the first of November next; Certifying such as shall upon pre-  
text hereof Import any Prohibited Commodities, or Vent, Sell, Barter, or Exchange any thereof after the said day, the same  
shall be Confiscat, Burnt, and Destroyed, and the Persons guilty otherwise punished, conform to the said Act of Parliament.

*Given under Our Signet at Edinburgh, the sixteenth day of August, One thousand six hundred eighty and three. And of Our  
Reign, the thirtieth and fifth Year.*

*Per Actum Dominorum Secreti Concilii.*

*WILL. PATERSON, Cls. Etii. Concilii.*

**GOD save the KING.**